

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 10 and 21 have been amended. Claim 19 has been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-14, 16, 17 and 21-28 are pending and under consideration.

GROUND FOR ENTRY OF THIS RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.116

The Applicants respectfully request entry of this Rule 116 Response because the present amendment only serves to correct indefiniteness issues under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and cancel the one claim rejected under prior art grounds.

If indefiniteness issues still exist after the filing of the present response, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Examiner's undersigned representative, Greg Harper, at 202 454 1586 to attempt to arrive at acceptable wording in order to avoid unnecessarily delaying prosecution.

REJOINDER OF CLAIMS

The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that claims 10 and 21 have been rejoined.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 112

Claims 10 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Appropriate correction has been made to claims 10 and 21 to correct the indefiniteness issues noted in the Office Action. Therefore, claims 10 and 21 should now be allowable as incorporate the subject matter of allowable claims 1 and 11, respectively.

CLAIM REJECTION – 102

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Deguchi et al. (JP 62-282173).

Claim 19 has been cancelled.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11-14, 16, 17 and 22-28 have been allowed.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: Gregory W. Harper
Gregory W. Harper
Registration No. 55,248

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501